Columbia University Libraries
Update June 2006
ALCTS Technical Services Directors of Large Research Libraries

Planning, Budget, and Organization:
　　　　The Libraries are in the midst of a strategic planning process for 2006-2009. As part of the first phase, we requested and received four new positions (covering web development, database programming, GIS applications, and archival processing.) Funding has also been allocated to staff a Copyright Office within Information Services. The materials budget will increase by 8%, continuing the pattern of recent years.

　　　　The University Archives will become part of the Columbia University Libraries on July 1st. The Archives currently reports to the Secretary of the University.

Acquisitions and Cataloging:
　　　　We continue to receive shelf-ready books for about 50% of domestic firm orders, and full catalog records with domestic approvals. (Our return rate on approvals is too high for shelf-ready.) We are awaiting a test file of catalog records from Aux Amateurs, and expect to begin receiving enhanced records from Casalini. We are trying to expand receipt of vendor records with Embedded Order Data, and most recently are working with China National Publishing Industry Trading Corp.

　　　　In conjunction with strategic planning, we are re-examining all local practices that differ from standard workflows, and will attempt to reduce these where possible to improve efficiency and expand the potential pool for shelf-ready books.

Electronic Resources:
　　　　Endeavor's Meridian system is in full production for databases (recently upgraded to Version 1.5) though we are still awaiting delivery of a standard loader for SerialsSolutions records before loading individual e-journals. We are in the process of recruiting (again) for a Networked Electronic Resources Librarian.

　　　　Many free electronic resources and individual titles within aggregations are being cataloged by allowing selectors to key data into a web form and automatically generating MARC records for cataloger review and enhancement. Tests have shown that this process reduces cataloging time by 50%.

　　　　Our locally-developed Hierarchical Interface to LC Classification (HILCC) has been licensed by SerialsSolutions as the basis for its subject interface to ejournals.

Digital Archiving and Institutional Repository:
　　　　Columbia has joined Portico, continues to use LOCKSS, and has deposited the content from some of our digitization projects in OCLC's Digital Archive. We also plan to implement D-Space over the summer. We expect to begin contributing records to the

OCLC/DLF Registry of Digital Masters shortly, and plan to track archiving arrangements through Meridian.

We have renewed our license for ProQuest Digital Commons, and are working with a number of academic centers to incorporate additional content.

Scholarly Publishing:
The Libraries, through the Libraries Digital Program, is now publishing its first open-access journal, the Columbia Undergraduate Science Journal
http://cusj.columbia.edu/cusj/
The Libraries are continuing to work with the Electronic Publishing Initiative at Columbia on automatic metadata generation (in MODS format) for the working papers and conference reports in CIAO, Columbia International Affairs Online.

Building Projects:
Planning is well under way for a new science building that will consolidate four of the current eight departmental science libraries (with most print materials going to offsite storage.) Meanwhile, the existing Geology Library is being reduced in size to allow construction of laboratory space.
The final phase of Butler Library renovation is now under way, completing a project begun over 10 years ago.
The second and final phase of renovation for the Avery Art and Architectural Library has entered the planning phase.
The Board of Trustees has approved construction of a fifth module at ReCAP, the offsite shelving facility shared by Columbia, NYPL, and Princeton. We now have over 2.3 million volumes stored at ReCAP.